



HAWLEY

Franklin County



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NARRATIVE

Narrative

Hawley is a very rural mountainous town dominated by more than 8,000 acres of state forest (DuBucque, Mohawk Trail and Savoy Mountain). Hawley has no stores and no industry but does have limited potato and dairy farming. Sixteen percent of the citizens of Hawley work at home businesses, while the balance of the population commute 25 or more miles to work.

Hawley is the site of a prehistoric bog and a recently rebuilt stone charcoal kiln. The town is also one of the most wintry towns in Massachusetts, averaging 100 to 110 inches of snowfall (170 inches in 1992-1993).

Despite its small size, Hawley, which celebrated its 200th Birthday in 1992, thrives on community spirit, even passing six (out of six) proposition 2 1/2 overrides. Hawley is the home of true volunteer government. The town has just two full-time employees but a 12 person volunteer fire department and 5 EMTs.

(Narrative supplied by community)



GEOGRAPHY

Location

Northwestern Massachusetts, bordered by Charlemont on the north, Buckland on the east, Ashfield on the southeast, Plainfield on the south, and and Savoy on the west. Hawley is 21 miles west of Greenfield and 116 miles northwest of Boston.

Total Area: 30.88 sq. miles

Land Area: 30.86 sq. miles

Population: 317

Density: 10 per sq. mile

Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Cummington Hill Station)

Normal temperature in January.....19.9°F

Normal temperature in July.....67.3°F

Normal annual precipitation.....46.0"

U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Plainfield, Ashfield, Rowe

Regional Planning Agency

Franklin County

Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)



GOVERNMENT

Municipal Offices

Main Number: (413) 339-5518

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Form of Government

Board of Selectmen

Administrative Assistant

Open Town Meeting

Year Incorporated

As a town: 1792

Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	218		
Democrats	28	12.8	%
Republicans	31	14.2	%
Other parties	0	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	159	72.9	%

Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



DEMOGRAPHICS

Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000

Geographic Area: Hawley town, Franklin County, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	336	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	336	100.0
Male.....	175	52.1	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	1	0.3
Female.....	161	47.9	Mexican.....	-	-
Under 5 years.....	15	4.5	Puerto Rican.....	-	-
5 to 9 years.....	21	6.3	Cuban.....	-	-
10 to 14 years.....	29	8.6	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	1	0.3
15 to 19 years.....	17	5.1	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	335	99.7
20 to 24 years.....	7	2.1	White alone.....	326	97.0
25 to 34 years.....	35	10.4	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	54	16.1	Total population.....	336	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	55	16.4	In households.....	336	100.0
55 to 59 years.....	27	8.0	Householder.....	137	40.8
60 to 64 years.....	26	7.7	Spouse.....	85	25.3
65 to 74 years.....	27	8.0	Child.....	90	26.8
75 to 84 years.....	16	4.8	Own child under 18 years.....	74	22.0
85 years and over.....	7	2.1	Other relatives.....	8	2.4
Median age (years).....	44.4	(X)	Under 18 years.....	4	1.2
18 years and over.....	257	76.5	Nonrelatives.....	16	4.8
Male.....	129	38.4	Unmarried partner.....	10	3.0
Female.....	128	38.1	In group quarters.....	-	-
21 years and over.....	252	75.0	Institutionalized population.....	-	-
62 years and over.....	66	19.6	Noninstitutionalized population.....	-	-
65 years and over.....	50	14.9	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	26	7.7	Total households.....	137	100.0
Female.....	24	7.1	Family households (families).....	99	72.3
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	41	29.9
One race.....	331	98.5	Married-couple family.....	85	62.0
White.....	327	97.3	With own children under 18 years.....	35	25.5
Black or African American.....	1	0.3	Female householder, no husband present.....	9	6.6
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	-	-	With own children under 18 years.....	3	2.2
Asian.....	3	0.9	Nonfamily households.....	38	27.7
Asian Indian.....	-	-	Householder living alone.....	29	21.2
Chinese.....	1	0.3	Householder 65 years and over.....	9	6.6
Filipino.....	-	-	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	45	32.8
Japanese.....	2	0.6	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	34	24.8
Korean.....	-	-	Average household size.....	2.45	(X)
Vietnamese.....	-	-	Average family size.....	2.85	(X)
Other Asian ¹	-	-	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	-	-	Total housing units.....	192	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	-	-	Occupied housing units.....	137	71.4
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	-	-	Vacant housing units.....	55	28.6
Samoan.....	-	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander ²	-	-	occasional use.....	27	14.1
Some other race.....	-	-	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	1.7	(X)
Two or more races.....	5	1.5	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	8.7	(X)
<i>Race alone or in combination with one</i>			HOUSING TENURE		
<i>or more other races:³</i>			Occupied housing units.....	137	100.0
White.....	332	98.8	Owner-occupied housing units.....	116	84.7
Black or African American.....	1	0.3	Renter-occupied housing units.....	21	15.3
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	-	-	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.53	(X)
Asian.....	3	0.9	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.00	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	-	-			
Some other race.....	5	1.5			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

¹ Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

² Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

³ In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

Home Sales (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

Subsidized Housing Units (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

Public Housing Units (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	0
Conventional Federal:	0

Rental Assistance(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	0
Federal (Section 8):	0



TRANSPORTATION

TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

The major axes of transportation in Franklin County, where Hawley is located, are State Route 2 and Interstate Route 91, which follows the Connecticut River. The region is well-served by rail. The Springfield Terminal Railway lines (the former Boston and Maine Railroad) parallel the two major highways, and the Central Vermont Railway's main line passes N-S through the eastern portion of the county.

Major Highways

The principal highway is State Route 8A running N-S, which intersects cross-state Route 2 in neighboring Charlemont.

Rail

There is no passenger or freight rail service in Hawley but the network of intermodal facilities serving Massachusetts is easily accessible.

Bus

Hawley is not affiliated with a regional transit authority.

Other

Harriman & West Airport, a General Aviation (GA) facility located in North Adams, has a 4,300'x 100' asphalt runway. Instrument approaches available: None.



CULTURE AND RECREATION

LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

None

RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

Recreational Facilities (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)



MISCELLANEOUS

HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

Hospitals

None

Long Term Care

None

Hospices

None

Rest Homes

None

UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.